We gather here today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, WHEREAS, signed into law by President Lyndon Baines Johnson on July 2, 1964. This law did not mark the end of the struggle, but marked the dawn of a new hope. It transformed our understanding of justice, equality, and democracy - it helped protect the right to vote and to prohibit discrimination in employment, public accommodation, transportation, and the administration of

federally funded and conducted programs in the areas of education, health, public safety, public welfare, and public works, among others; and

- Seattle is a profoundly better place because of many decades of sacrifices made by great men WHEREAS, and women, including giants who led us to the mountaintop, to unsung heroes who marched on Washington, and to every civil rights activist, who bravely fought the cancer of discrimination and, in some cases, paid the ultimate price for freedom and equality; and
- WHEREAS. It is fitting, as our journey to a more perfect Union continues, that we reflect upon a half-century of progress; share the history of the courage and commitment necessary to attain true and lasting equality; build on the principles of fairness, justice, equal opportunity and access; and renew our commitment to work for an even brighter future for Seattle and for all communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, IN RECOGNITION OF THIS LANDMARK LEGISLATION AND OUR IMPORTANT CONTINUING RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND ACCESS FOR ALL RESIDENTS, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR AND THE SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL THAT 2014 IS THE

50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

We call upon all Seattle residents to join us in celebrating the precious legacy of this historic legislation. Let us continue to work together in renewing our commitment to building a freer and fairer society.

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Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Councilmember Sally Bagshaw

Councilmember Tom Rasmussen

Council President Tim Burgess

Councilmember Sally I. Clark

Councilmember Bruce Harrell

Councilmember Mike O'Brien

Councilmember Kshama Sawant